

In the claims: Please change the claims as indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A method for use in communicating protected bits from a sending device to a receiving device ~~providing additional error detection for at least some signaling bits for wireless communication of bits from a sending device to a receiving device, the sending device and the receiving device using a CRC code or some other error detection method to protect bits conveyed over a protected channel and also other bits over another channel by conveying not only the protected bits but also error detection bits, the protected channel being a channel other than the channel over which the signaling bits are conveyed,~~ the method characterized by:

a step (31-32) in which the sending device computes the error detection bits based ~~not only on both~~ both the protected bits ~~but also based on and the signaling~~other bits, and ~~and~~

a step (32) in which the sending device transmits the error detection bits so computed with the protected bits on the protected channel and also transmits the signaling~~other~~ bits, ~~but on another~~ the other channel.

2. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, further characterized by:

a step (33) in which the receiving device detects errors, ~~based not only on the protected bits but also on the transmitted~~ and the signaling~~other~~ bits.

3. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 2, further comprising a step (34) in which the receiving device discards at least some bits of a frame if an error is detected in the ~~signaling~~other bits, and asks the sending

device to retransmit the frame, but does not add the discarded bits to a buffer for soft-combining ~~the discarded bits~~.

4. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 3, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits comprise bits indicating a TFCI for a data channel, and the bits that are discarded in case of detecting an error are the bits conveyed by the data channel.

5. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits are conveyed by a control channel used to decode a further channel.

6. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 5, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits include bits indicating a TFCI, and the further channel is a traffic channel.

7. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the channel used to convey the ~~signaling~~other bits and the protected channel are both control channels used to decode a further channel.

8. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 7, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits convey a TFCI, and the protected channel is an outband signaling channel.

9. (Original) A method as in claim 7, wherein the protected channel is time multiplexed with the further channel.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 7, wherein the protected channel is code multiplexed with the further channel.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the protected channel is a traffic channel.

12. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 11, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits are conveyed by a control channel used to decode a further channel, and the protected channel is better protected than the further channel.

13. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~error detection method involves computing the error~~detection bits are computed using a CRC code value based on  
~~the bits to be protected.~~

14. (Original) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a telecommunication device, with said computer program code characterized in that it includes instructions for performing the steps of the method of claim 1.

15. (Original) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a telecommunication device, with said computer program code characterized in that it includes instructions for performing the steps of the method of claim 2.

16. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use by a ~~wireless~~ telecommunications device (20a) in ~~providing~~communicating  
protected bits to a receiving device over a protected  
channel and also other bits over another channel, additional  
~~error detection for at least some signaling bits for~~  
~~wireless communication of bits, the device (20a) using a CRC~~

~~code or some other error detection method to protect bits conveyed over a protected channel by conveying not only the protected bits but also error detection bits, the protected channel being a channel other than the channel over which the signaling bits are conveyed, the apparatus characterized by:~~

means (21-22) by which, ~~when transmitting,~~ the device (20a) computes ~~the error detection bits based not only on both the protected bits, but also based on and the~~ signaling~~other~~ bits, and

means (22) by which the device (20a) transmits the error detection bits so computed with the protected bits on the protected channel and also transmits the signaling~~other~~ bits ~~but on another~~ on the other channel.

17. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the device (20a) is a UE device.

18. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the device (20a) is an access point of a telecommunications network.

19. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the signaling~~other~~ bits are conveyed by a control channel used to decode a further channel.

20. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the signaling~~other~~ bits include bits indicating a TFCI, and the further channel is a traffic channel.

21. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the channel used to convey the signaling~~other~~ bits

and the protected channel are both control channels used to decode a further channel.

22. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 21, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits convey a TFCI, and the protected channel is an outband signaling channel.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in ~~claim 21~~claim 19, wherein the protected channel is time multiplexed with the further channel.

24. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in ~~claim 21~~claim 19, wherein the protected channel is code multiplexed with the further channel.

25. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the protected channel is a traffic channel.

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits are conveyed by a control channel used to decode a further channel, and the protected channel is better protected than the further channel.

27. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 16, wherein the error detection ~~method involves computing bits~~are computed using a CRC code value based on the bits to be protected.

28. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use by a wireless telecommunications device (20b) in receiving protected bits from a sending device over a protected channel and also other bits over another channel~~providing additional error detection for at least some signaling bits for wireless~~

~~communication of bits, the device (20b) using a CRC code or some other error detection method to protect bits conveyed over a protected channel by conveying not only the protected bits but also error detection bits, the protected channel being a channel other than the channel over which the signaling bits are conveyed,~~ the apparatus characterized by:

means (25 26) by which the device (20b) receives the protected bits and also the other bits; and

means (27) by which, ~~when receiving,~~ the device (20b) detects errors based not only on the protected bits but also and on the ~~transmitted signaling~~other bits.

29. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 28, wherein the device (20b) is an access point of a telecommunications network.

30. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 28, wherein the device (20b) is a UE device.

31. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 28, further comprising means (28) by which ~~when receiving,~~ the device (20b) discards at least some bits of a frame if an error is detected in the ~~signaling~~other bits, and requests retransmission of the discarded bits, but does not add the discarded bits to a buffer for soft-combining.

32. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in claim 31, wherein the ~~signaling~~other bits comprise bits indicating a TFCI for a data channel, and the bits that are discarded in case of detecting an error are the bits conveyed by the data channel.

33. (Original) A system, comprising a first wireless telecommunications device (20a) including an apparatus as in claim 16, and also a second wireless telecommunications device (20b).

34. (Original) A system, comprising a first wireless telecommunications device (20a), and further comprising a second wireless telecommunications device (20b) including an apparatus as in claim 28.

35. (New) A method, comprising the steps of:

using both protected symbols for transmission over a protected channel and unprotected symbols for transmission over an unprotected channel in providing error detection symbols for transmission over said protected channel; and

sending said error detection symbols along with said protected symbols on said protected channel and said unprotected symbols on said unprotected channel to a receiver.

36. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

means for providing error detection symbols for transmission over a protected channel using both protected symbols for transmission over the protected channel and unprotected symbols for transmission over an unprotected channel; and

means for sending said error detection symbols along with said protected symbols on said protected channel and said unprotected symbols on said unprotected channel to a receiver.